

## CLAIMS

1. An agent for detecting a sentinel lymph node of a human being, comprising fluorescent particles having a diameter of equal to or more than 200 nm and equal to or less than 1000 nm.
2. An agent for detecting a sentinel lymph node of a small mammal other than a human being, comprising fluorescent particles having a diameter of equal to or more than 40 nm and less than 200 nm.
3. The agent for detecting a sentinel lymph node according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the fluorescent particles emit fluorescence having a wavelength from 600 to 900 nm.
4. The agent for detecting a sentinel lymph node according to any one of Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that at least a part of the surface of the fluorescent particles is constituted by organopolysiloxane.
5. A method for detecting a sentinel lymph node of a small mammal other than a human being, characterized by comprising:
  - a step of injecting into a living body of the small mammal other than a human being fluorescent particles having a diameter of equal to or more than 40 nm and less than 200 nm;
  - a step of radiating excitation energy near a point of the injection on the small mammal; and
  - a step of detecting fluorescence emitted from the fluorescent particles.